

THE NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY

MARYVILLE, Mo.

MISSOURIANONLINE.COM

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DECEMBER 2, 2004

Basketball teams pick up early week wins. See B1

Newsbriefs
U plans to
name change

GFIELD, Mo. (AP) — Springfield legislators again to make the Missouri State University would be a more name for the state's largest university. J. Marsh, both cans, filed bills day, more than a before the start of 5 legislative session, to change the name of Missouri State by removing the designation. Missouri State maintain the name would bring to their institutions, allowing them to better students and as well as more donations.

Day observed the world

(AP) — From Zambia, activists put by the thousands out on AIDS Day on day, singing in mighty lights, lighting candles in trees and playing United Nations this year's observing protection men and girls. Nearly 39.4 million people with HIV worldwide



Rivals Reach Compromise Deal

Ukraine (AP) — opposition leader Yushchenko signed a Tuesday that obliged to lift their government build. He said his support on the streets of Kiev is reached on a deal. After talks with the official winner of the presidential runoff, Medvedchuk, who proposed that a deal be held Dec. 19 to end the crisis over the balloting.

Out seeking
Palestinian
ency spot

AH, West Bank-based Palestinian leader Barghouti reversed a decision and filed official papers to run for president to succeed the late Arafat, throwing politics into the turmoil. The militant group announced that it will be the Jan. 9 election, the of open tensions with the Palestinian group since Arafat died in Nov. 11.

Northwest seals biopharming initiative

By SARAH SWEDBERG
University News Editor

A partnership between a California-based company and Northwest Missouri State could provide a seed for area farmers, local businesses, the University and the state to enhance its quality of life.

"It has the potential to transform this rural economy," President Dean Hubbard said.

Touted throughout the past year as "biopharming," the collaboration between biology, pharmacology and farming is slated to have revenue potential of up to \$200 million—but it's only the beginning.

Over time, Northwest Missouri could turn into a hub for plant-made pharmaceutical production while encouraging economic development, attracting the life sciences industry, enhancing University curriculum and providing new jobs for the area.

This initiative adds a new perspective that drives the four legs of northwest Missouri's economy, said state Rep. Brad Lager. Consisting of academia, industrial manufacturing, business and agriculture, bioresearch and biopharmaceuticals add a leg he said that could assist the others.

"This has the possibility to

change a lot of things and really impact us for the better," Lager said.

Northwest and the Sacramento, Calif. Company Ventria Biosciences signed an agreement Nov. 18, which stipulates that the company relocate its production facilities and 13 scientists to the region. This will heavily involve resources from Northwest and the state in the next several years.

More than \$30 million in funding from both entities will finance an off-campus Ventria facility to be located in the old AC Lightning building east of Maryville, a 22,000 square-foot addition to Garrett-Strong Science

Building and greenhouses to be located on the University's R.T. Wright Farm north of Maryville.

In order to seal the agreement, \$5 million in investments were required to finance Ventria's operating costs before profits are made.

The biopharmaceutical company will begin growing rice in southeastern Missouri on up to 2,000 acres of land this coming spring before moving production here in a couple of years.

"It's not something that is going to happen overnight, this is going to be something that is going to have to take place over a series

Please see 'Biopharming' on page A5

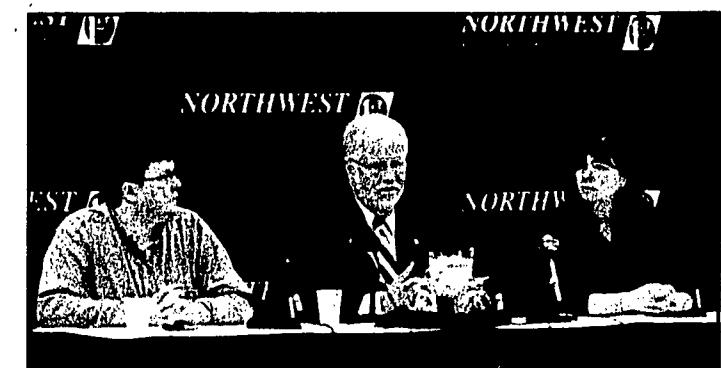


PHOTO BY SCOTT GIBSON/CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER
Northwest president Dean Hubbard announces Northwest's deal with Ventria Biosciences to begin the first phase of biopharming at Northwest. With Hubbard are Jeff Thornsberry, left, professor of Biology, and Lee Langerock, president of Nodaway County Economic Development.

Audit reveals losses from embezzlement

By AARON BAILEY
Community News Editor

Maryville, Tenn. — District Superintendent Vicki Miller declined comment on the case, citing advice from attorneys.

Mickes said that once the district receives reimbursement from their insurance company, the Missouri United Schools Insurance Council, they will decide on any course of action taken against McKee's estate for damages.

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The report is now in the process of being turned over to the district's insurance company for reimbursement, after which the insurance company may decide to seek damages against the responsible party.

The district's attorney in the case, Tom Mickes, confirmed that Nancy McKee, a former office worker at Eugene Field, was the individual responsible for embezzling the money.

McKee died Jan. 16 after an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound. Earlier that day, school officials met with McKee about a personal matter and as a result she was placed on administrative leave until the matter could be investigated more fully. The authorities later discovered McKee's body in her home in

Maryville.

District Superintendent Vicki Miller declined comment on the case, citing advice from attorneys.

Mickes said that once the district receives reimbursement from their insurance company, the Missouri United Schools Insurance Council, they will decide on any course of action taken against McKee's estate for damages.

The action taken against any responsible party will be brought on by the insurance company," Mickes said. "How it normally works is that they will seek to recover damages from the estate, that's my guess."

Mickes' involvement in the case has ended since it is now in the hands of the insurance company.

There is currently no timeline for when the district will be reimbursed or if and when litigation will be taken against McKee's estate.

University comes up short in Baldrige race

By SARAH SWEDBERG
University News Editor
and
By ANDY TIMKO
Chief Reporter

December to receive the independent board of examiners' report over both the application and October site visit.

This year's winner in the education category was Kenneth W. Monfort College of Business in Greeley, Colo. and Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in Hamilton, N.J.

According to Hubbard, the sole reason that Northwest did not win was due to the lack of comparative test data on how students at Northwest do on nationally-normed tests in comparison to 42 other institutions that compete for the award.

"We were disappointed, a former judge and others said slam dunk you got it this year," Northwest President Dean Hubbard said. "There's no question we were disappointed about it."

Strategic Planning Committee and Baldrige Award coordinator Paul Klute echoed Hubbard's feelings.

"I'm very interested to see what they had to say as well as what areas we need to improve upon so we can make the students' experience better based on their feedback," he said.

The University will wait until

Hunting season brings safety, tradition, cooperation of sportsmen

By DENNIS SHARKEY
Missourian Reporter

For Todd Gray, passing on a time-honored family tradition serves a dual role.

Gray, of Maryville, thinks that it's important that he teach the art of hunting to his 6-year-old son Jacob because it shows that he cares, in addition to teaching a vital skill.

"It's the old rule of thumb, you teach your kids how to hunt and fish now so you're not doing it for them later," Gray said. "Besides, it's a lot better than him playing Nintendo."

Gray began taking his son turkey and deer hunting last year when Jacob was 5. He believes that it's catching on.

"He loves it," Gray said. "It's just a little hard sometimes trying to get him to sit still."

Gray's father, Larry, says that Gray caught on quickly.

"Mainly I just showed him gun safety, and he went off on his own," Larry said.

Both Gray and his father agree that it's a good way to spend time with Jacob and introduce things to him that they enjoy doing, in hope that Jacob will enjoy them as well.

"I most certainly think along with fishing, hunting is a good way to

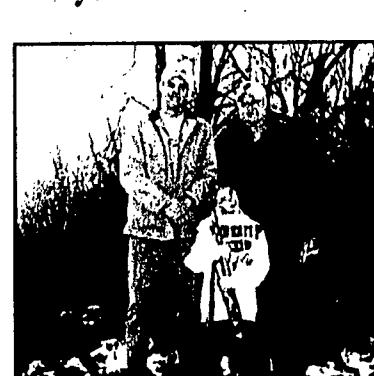


PHOTO BY DENNIS SHARKEY/MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Three generations of hunters: Todd Gray, his father Larry, and son Jacob, continue to pass on the family tradition of hunting not only for the enjoyment of the sport, but for the responsibility and respect for nature it instills.

Jan. 1, 1967 must have a card to obtain a hunting license, except for those who are hunting on their own land.

Campbell said that hunter safety courses are held frequently, and that the Conservation Department Web site has listings of course times.

Please see 'Hunting' on page A4

bond," Larry said.

The State of Missouri Conservation Department wants to help hunters like Todd pass on hunting to the state's youth. The youth-only deer firearms season, held the weekend before the regular season opens, is now in its fourth year, and 50 percent more deer were harvested statewide than a year ago. Christine Campbell, an agent with the Missouri Conservation Department, said the program allows youth hunters ages 6-15 with a youth tag to hunt before the regular season, giving adults the opportunity to teach without distractions. There were also no accidents, leaving the four-year program with an unblemished record.

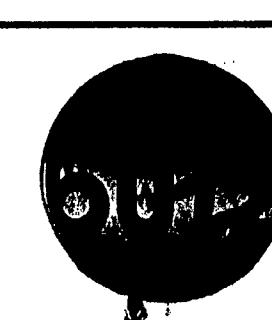
"Being prior to regular adult season, it helps the adults," Campbell said. "It gives them a chance to work with the young hunter in a safe manner."

Youth participating in the program must be accompanied by a licensed adult with a hunter's education certification card. Hunters born after

Jan. 1, 1967 must have a card to obtain a hunting license, except for those who are hunting on their own land.

Campbell said that hunter safety courses are held frequently, and that the Conservation Department Web site has listings of course times.

Please see 'Hunting' on page A4



Web Extras:

Reviews of the Spider-Man 2 DVD and U2's new album "How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb"

Your Weekend Weather

Friday 12/4

Sun and Clouds
High 46°F
Low 28°F

Saturday 12/5

Partly Cloudy
High 50°F
Low 33°F

Sunday 12/6

Partly Cloudy
High 50°F
Low 34°F

Missouri News**State names
Lager budget
chairman**

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — The state House's newly chosen House budget chairman said Monday that he will work to cut waste in state government and balance the budget without a tax increase.

"We will be successful in crafting and delivering a very responsible budget," said Rep. Brad Lager, R-Maryville.

"We've been given a very strong directive. Voters of this state have said no new taxes."

Lager, who has served as the vice chairman of the House Budget Committee, was introduced by incoming House Speaker Rod Jetton, R-Marble Hill.

Jetton and Lager said curbing the growth in Medicaid will be important again next year, although a House Medicaid plan faced opposition from some in the Republican-led Senate and the Democratic governor earlier this year.

"I want to make sure we have the dollars available to care for the truly needy," Lager said.

Republican Gov.-elect Matt Blunt also said during his campaign that he did not support House Republicans' calls for tougher eligibility standards for Medicaid benefits.

Blunt said it would be "inappropriate" to remove people from the Medicaid rolls until the state maximizes its use of Medicaid resources by methods such as eliminating fraud.

Blunt's name in big letters that cost



Brad Lager

Missouri elves at work

PHOTO BY JERRY NAUNHEIM JR./AP PHOTO

Alzada Ferris, left, of Jennings, Mo., Jim Kille of St. Louis and Polly Nelson of Creve Coeur, Mo., wrap some of about 15,800 gifts for the Salvation Army's Toy Lift program, which sends gifts to the children of prisoners incarcerated in Missouri and Illinois. More than 400 volunteers worked Tuesday and Wednesday at the Salvation Army Christmas Center in the St. Louis Marketplace shopping center. Prisoners were given catalogs from which they could choose specific gifts for their children.

Pricey cleanup expected for donor's tarnished name

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — The University of Missouri expects to spend at least \$30,000 to erase memories of a Wal-Mart heiress from its glittering new arena and everything else bearing her name.

The just-weeks-old Paige Sports Arena becomes Mizzou Arena after the young woman it's named after. Elizabeth Paige Laurie became embroiled in well-publicized accusations that she cheated her way through college.

But the new name comes at a price.

From the arena's big illuminated letters to painted logos on the basketball floor, everything connected with the new \$75 million building seems to pay tribute to Laurie, who never attended college here on the state university's flagship campus but whose parents donated \$25 million for the arena naming rights.

"I can't imagine anybody being happy about having to go through this, but it is what is," said Chad Moller, a spokesman for the university. "We're dealing with it and we're going to get it changed and it'll be behind us soon."

Laurie's name in big letters that cost

\$10,000 came down from the arena's exterior on Monday. Moller said the university plans to salvage the letters it can to put up the new name.

The university will cover the images with decals that cost more than \$1,000 until they can paint them over. Come spring, the university plans to sand and repaint the floors to put the new logo down.

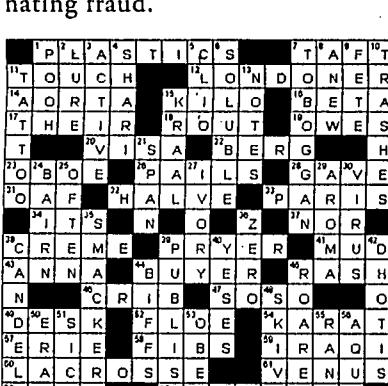
Game programs are being redone free of charge by the printer. But Moller estimated new business cards, envelopes and letterhead could cost about \$3,000.

The unexpected expenses will come from the athletic department's budget, not from Laurie's parents Columbia billionaires Bill and Nancy Laurie.

"We're not looking to ask the family for that," Moller said. "They've done enough."

The Lauries agreed to give up the naming rights last week after allegations surfaced on ABC's "20/20" that their daughter cheated her way through the University of Southern California.

The Lauries have declined to comment on the report.



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**National News****'Jeopardy!' whiz meets his mat**

NEW YORK (AP) — Following his remarkable run as the "Jeopardy!" whiz, Ken Jennings is famous enough to be trailed by a fan in the subway, is penning a book and, of course, has \$2,520,700 in winnings to decide how to spend.

What he doesn't have anymore, after his 74-game winning streak came to an end in an episode televised Tuesday, is a chance to play his favorite game.

"I miss it quite a bit," Jennings told The Associated Press. "It didn't really hit me that that was going to be the hard part. I thought the hard part would be

the loss."

He seemed so invincible that when California real estate agent Nancy Zerg beat him, there was an audible gasp from the audience.

As someone who always has prepared his own tax returns, Jennings was tripped up in Final Jeopardy by this answer: Most of this firm's 70,000 seasonal white-collar employees work only four months a year.

Zerg had the correct reply: "What is H&R Block?" But Jennings guessed

Federal Express, a "Jeopardy!" lost first time.

The final \$14,001 to

Some stats: average daily in \$34,063.51. For the previous day, \$52,000 tying it before shattering it.

\$75,000 win in Game 39.

He gave more than 2,700



Ken Jennings

Brokaw signs off after 23 years as anch

NEW YORK (AP) — Tom Brokaw ends almost 23 years at the anchor desk Wednesday night, as he signs off "NBC Nightly News" for the last time.

Making good on an exit plan announced in May 2002, Brokaw, 64, is stepping away from daily journalism to pursue his varied other interests, including more time on his Montana ranch. His NBC association will continue under an agreement to host at least three documentaries a year.

And if a huge story breaks, "I'll report for duty," he told The Associated

Press recently. "It doesn't mean I'll go back to what I did before. They'll have to find a new role for me."

Brian Williams takes over "Nightly News" with Thursday's broadcast. He begins at the top of the ratings, where "Nightly News" has reigned since 1997.

Wednesday morning, he appeared on "Today," which he once anchored, for a tribute from current hosts Katie Couric and Matt Lauer, who paraphrased a familiar song: "Nobody does it better and no one ever has."

"Even as we speak," Brokaw joked

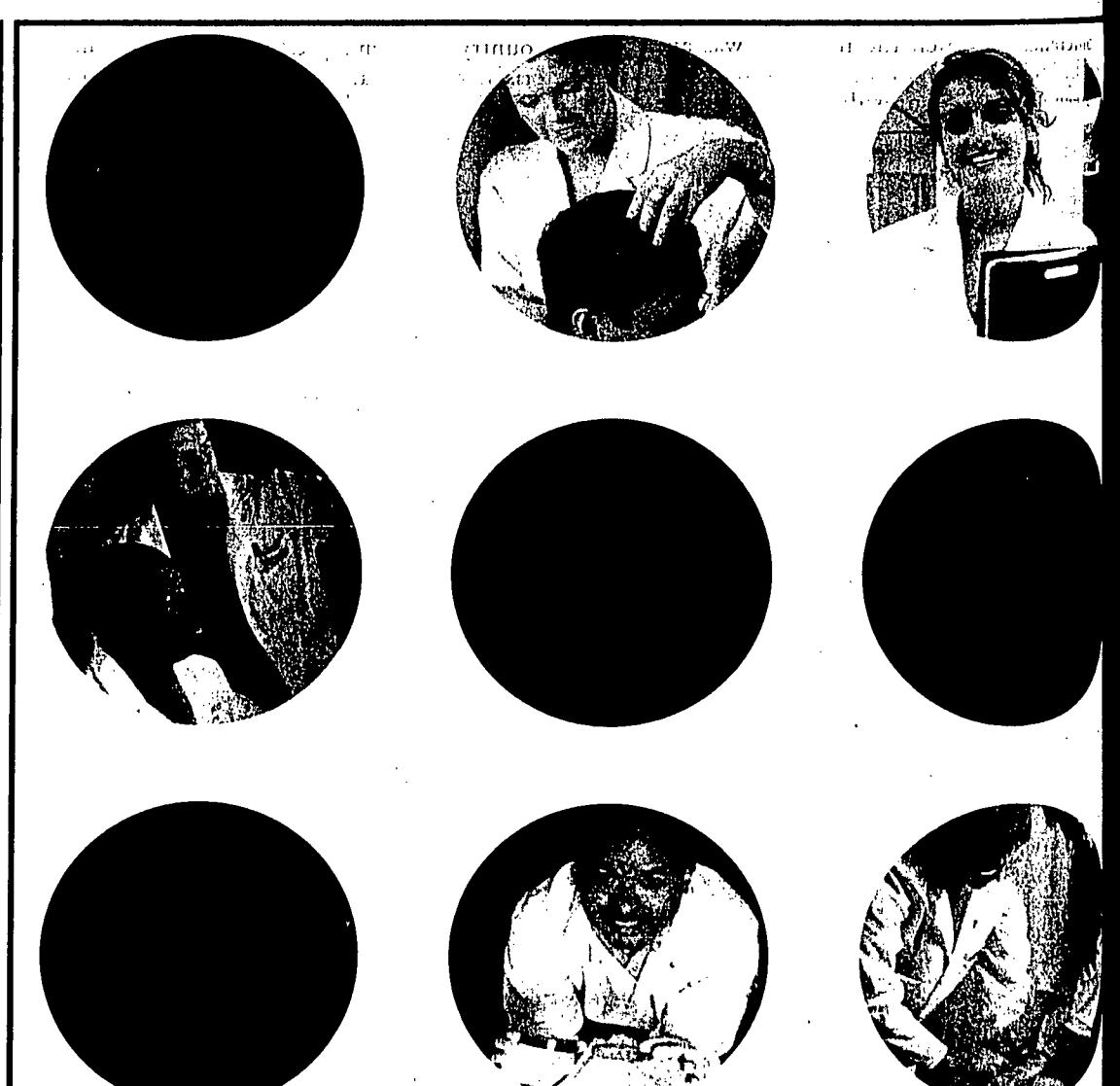
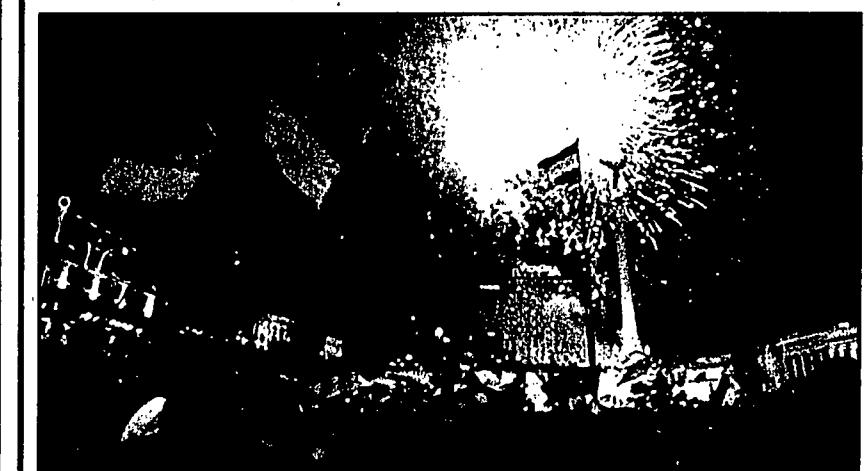


Tom Brokaw

Protesting with a

Fireworks explode behind Independence Column, after opposition rally in Kiev, Ukraine. Hundreds of thousands of protesters kept up the massive protests they have maintained since election he says was stolen by rampant fraud, jamming Kiev's main avenue and laying siege to building.

PHOTO BY ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO/ASSOCIATED PRESS

International News

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Our View

Harvesting success

at Northwest's biopharming initiative become a reality is music to the ears of education, economy and agriculture

ast of town sits the AC Lighting building, unassuming and vacant. Few passersby recognize that within months, it will be home to one of the best futures Northwest has seen. Thanks to the ever-ambitious efforts of University administrators, Northwest did the unthinkable—or not thinkable, when taking into account what this campus has achieved in recent years—by gaining an educationally and financially lucrative contract with Ventrion, formerly of Sacramento, Calif.

Today, we proudly say, they're of Maryville, Mo. Though partially shrouded in secrecy throughout its development, Northwest's Biopharming initiative, aptly named as a cross between biology, pharmacology and engineering, was revealed with enthusiasm and ceremony weeks ago. Rightfully so. A project like this is not unprecedented, but, if the promises made are true, it could also outshine virtually any prior financial and educational accomplishment made in the industry since Northwest's establishment.

And, most importantly, Northwest did it with the University of Missouri.

In this end, we couldn't be prouder. This ingenious deal opens an incredible amount of opportunity for Northwest—all immensely benefiting students of this campus, be it directly or indirectly. Profits aside, the additions to Northwest's multimillion expansion to Garrett-Strong Science Building and an incubator at the R.T. Wright north of Maryville. Most importantly, however, are the additions of two new degrees in technology. Know what it is? We don't either. There's one thing of which we're certain.—fields of study such as this will aid in nothing more than getting more of the best and brightest students to campus—learning in part from Ventrion scientists, surely among the best and brightest the scientific community has to offer.

This project will be just the shot in the arm Maryville's seemingly stagnant economy needs. Between the revenue boom this project hopefully brings to the wants and needs of Nodaway County's future new residents, changes will certainly be for the better, and we commend Nodaway County Economic Development for working as our administrators did to seal this success. The project, and concept in general, are not without their detractors. In fact, the day of the conference in which the initiative was announced by Hubbard, environmental activist and Green Party vice presidential candidate, LaDuke spoke at the University, voicing concern over the concept of genetically modified food by addressing it as an ethical issue.

While we respect and admire LaDuke's educated views, we also take into account the livelihoods of so many Northwest Missouri farmers, who, according to University President Dean Hubbard, could be twice what they do now. In a struggling agricultural economy, what better way to feed the men and women who feed—or heal—the world?

trust the promises of good fortune made by the administration when it comes to the biopharming initiative. We hope that campus, community and the future of medicine are not let down.

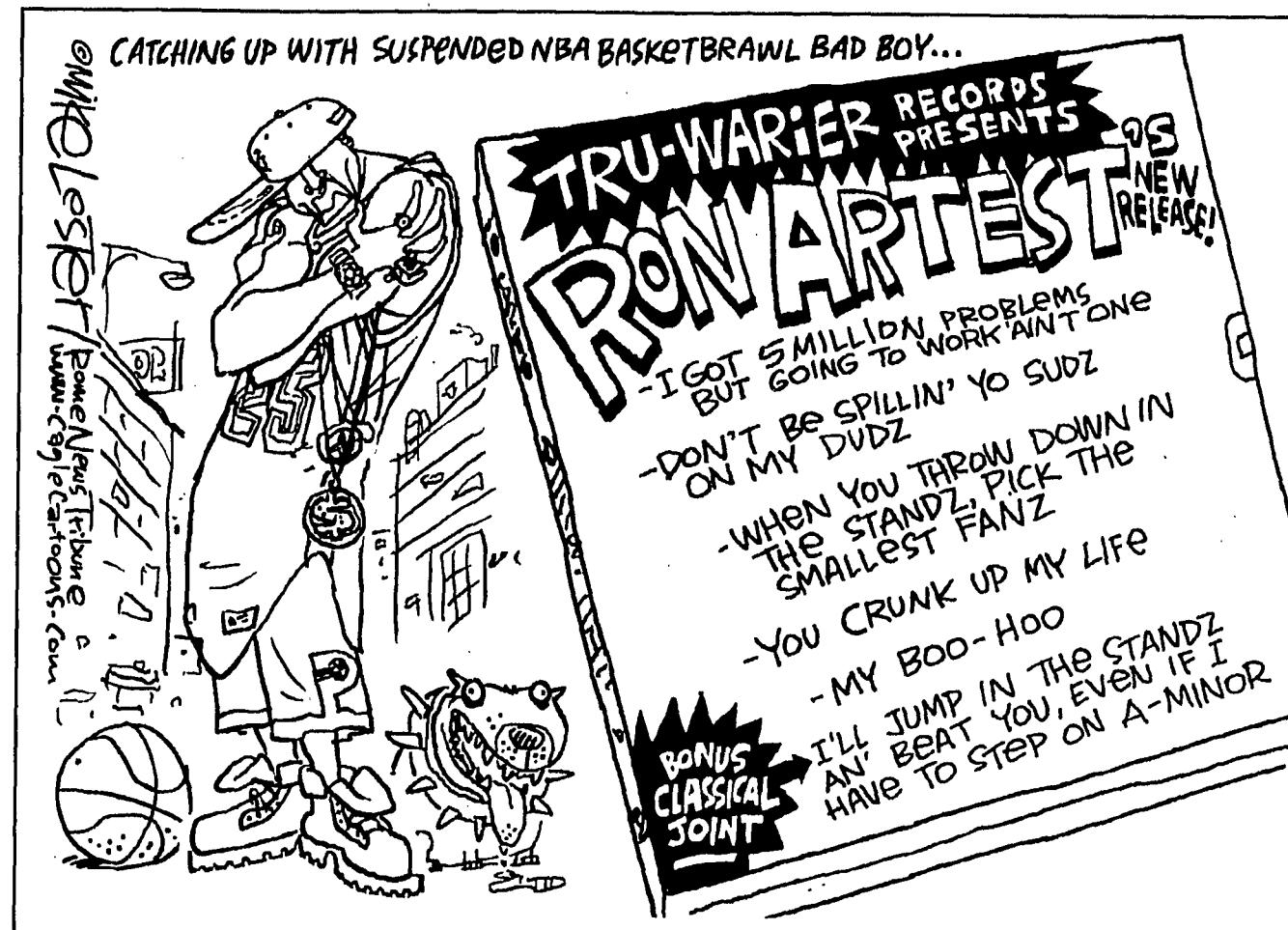
Missourian Backtalk.

562-1980

Announce a controversial biopharming partnership on the same day the Native American environmental activist is to speak is comparable to announcing a partnership with the KKK on the day the Rev. Jesse Jackson would be speaking. Does anyone doubt the administration's disrespect of Native Americans?"

I am calling to comment on the Thurs. Nov. 18 column titled 'What is the craziest thing one of your professors has ever said?' I find this column completely offensive. We pride ourselves on being a university that's full of great professors and we get awards all the time for things and then you have a column making fun of our professors. Stating that they are crazy is unbelievable."

Editor's Note: If you would like your entire column printed, please keep statements brief.



Our state of fear is most frightening of all

As the conflict in Iraq continues and the neverending war on terror marches on, it's become clear to me that our society has become totally consumed by fear.

During a routine American Government lecture, my professor asked everyone in the class how many of them were willing to relinquish some of their civil liberties in order to be safe and secure from terrorism. I was sure that no one would raise their hand and admit to such an atrocity. Who in their right mind would throw away any of our precious rights in order to have a false sense of security?

To my surprise, nearly half the class raised their hands in unison. Although the number of people in my classroom represent only a small fraction of the population, their sentiments speak a lot to the state of fear that blankets our society.

It is no secret that civil rights in this country are often repressed in times of crisis. More than 100,000 Japanese-Americans were detained in U.S. internment camps during World War II. And let us not forget the McCarthy community witch hunts of the early 1950s. The courts and society waged a war on communism in the states. And they were willing to trample over the first amendment to rid society of communist evils.

You would think that society has evolved since then, but looking at conditions in this post Sept. 11, world we



My View

haven't changed one bit.

The world watched as two commercial airliners plunged into the Twin Towers—resulting in the greatest attack on American soil since Pearl Harbor.

And no sooner than the tragedy had reached its haunting conclusion, our nation fell into an immediate state of panic with Congress in steadfast pursuit. Just 45 days after 9/11, Congress passed the USA Patriot Act, the most dangerous piece of legislation of our time. I don't know how many people have actually read some of the clauses that constitute this mockery of the U.S. Constitution, but it's downright disgusting. Ever heard of a thing called probable cause? Before 9/11, the government and law enforcement were required to obtain a warrant to lawfully search our homes, offices and personal records. Not anymore. There are provisions in this act that allow the government to search through e-mails, personal, financial and even library

records without court supervisions.

We also saw that wave of fear creep into this year's presidential election. President Bush used the war on terror to fuel his campaign for re-election. He emphasized that terror still lurks in the shadows, and he was the right candidate to protect American citizens from danger. And what a coincidence that on the day of the elections, the terror alert system was elevated to significant risk of attack.

Unfortunately, there doesn't seem to be a foreseeable end to this wave of fear that continues to direct our nation. And what's more alarming is that a great number of people—like the few students who raised their hands in my government class—are OK with that.

Fear is a natural human emotion. I'm not saying we shouldn't be concerned about future attacks. However, I am saying that we, as a society, should never allow our fears to overshadow the precious freedoms that constitute the already fragile democracy we have in this country.

Today it's the principles of the Fourth amendment, tomorrow it could be the First, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, and who knows what else. If we continue to head down this path of destruction we are, in hindsight, transforming the Constitution into meaningless words tacked on to worthless sheets of paper.

That is a consequence that this nation must not and cannot endure.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Actions of some won't overshadow Greek mission

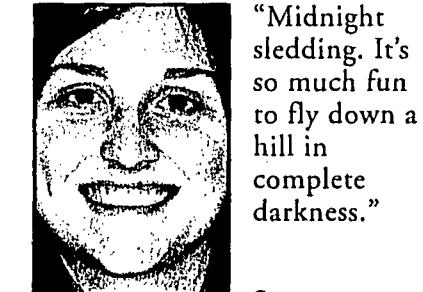
To the community of Maryville and Northwest Missouri State University,

Recently an editorial was published in *The Northwest Missourian* that indicated unacceptable actions by members of the Greek community. I write this letter in response to first apologize for those actions and bring into light the true purpose and vision of the Greek system. While it is important that the actions of this Greek member not be overlooked, it is also important to not let this one unfortunate incident overshadow the unyielding contributions of the Greek community to not only the Northwest campus but also the Maryville community. So as I stated before, let me sincerely apologize for the irrational actions stated in the previously submitted editorial. Please understand that this is one member of a large population and appropriate measures are being taken to address the behavior of this member.

On a brighter note, I would like to mention that, as President of the Panhellenic Council, I continue to remain dedicated and focused on continuously improving the Greek system. It is unfortunate that this incident occurred, but it also serves as a reminder that the actions of one member can ruin the reputation of an entire group. So while this instance is unacceptable, please do not forget about the positive aspects of Greek Life. For instance, the Greek System provides support through philanthropy projects, community service such as BRUSH, Strut Your Mutt, Angel Tree, canned food drives and more. Members currently hold major leadership positions in several student organizations including Student Senate, Student Regent, Student faculty Disciplinary Committee, Leadership builders, Omicron Delta Kappa business organization, Mortar Board, honor soci-

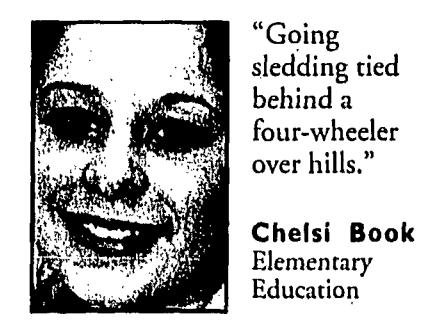
eties and many others. Members of the Greek community continually strive to provide assistance to all aspects of the Northwest and Maryville communities. While I understand the inappropriateness of one member's actions and once again sincerely apologize for them, I encourage the community to remember that there are hundreds of students within the Greek system that are dedicated to making Northwest's culture the best it can be.

MEGGIE MCCONNELL
PANHELLENIC PRESIDENT



"Midnight sledding. It's so much fun to fly down a hill in complete darkness."

Sara Chamberlain
Political Science



"Going sledding tied behind a four-wheeler over hills."

Chelsi Book
Elementary Education

Northwest Missourian is an independent learning environment and the best source of information and advertising for our community.

Comments about *The Northwest Missourian*? Story idea? We would like to hear from you. If you do not find the person you need on the right, please contact Abby 562-1224, by fax at 660-562-1521, by e-mail at northwestmissourian@hotmail.com or write us at 800 University Drive, Wells Hall 6, 64468.

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The Northwest Missourian
Wells Hall 6
800 University Drive
Maryville, MO 64468

Letters are limited to 250 words due to space constraints. All letters must be signed; students should include their major. The Missourian reserves the right to edit all letters.

Memorial radio project underway

By JARED HOFFMANN
Chief Reporter

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration radio program is now officially up and running in honor of Brother Damian Larson of Conception Abbey, known to many as the weather monk.

Christy Forney, Maryville Public Safety coordinating assistant, initiated the idea for the weather radio project and hosted a meeting at City Hall on Dec. 1 to present radios to area schools, nursing homes and daycares. Forney said her initial goal was to raise \$1,200 in order to supply every area school with a radio. Having surpassed that amount, local nursing homes and daycares will also benefit from the radios (which broadcast weather warnings directly from the Na-



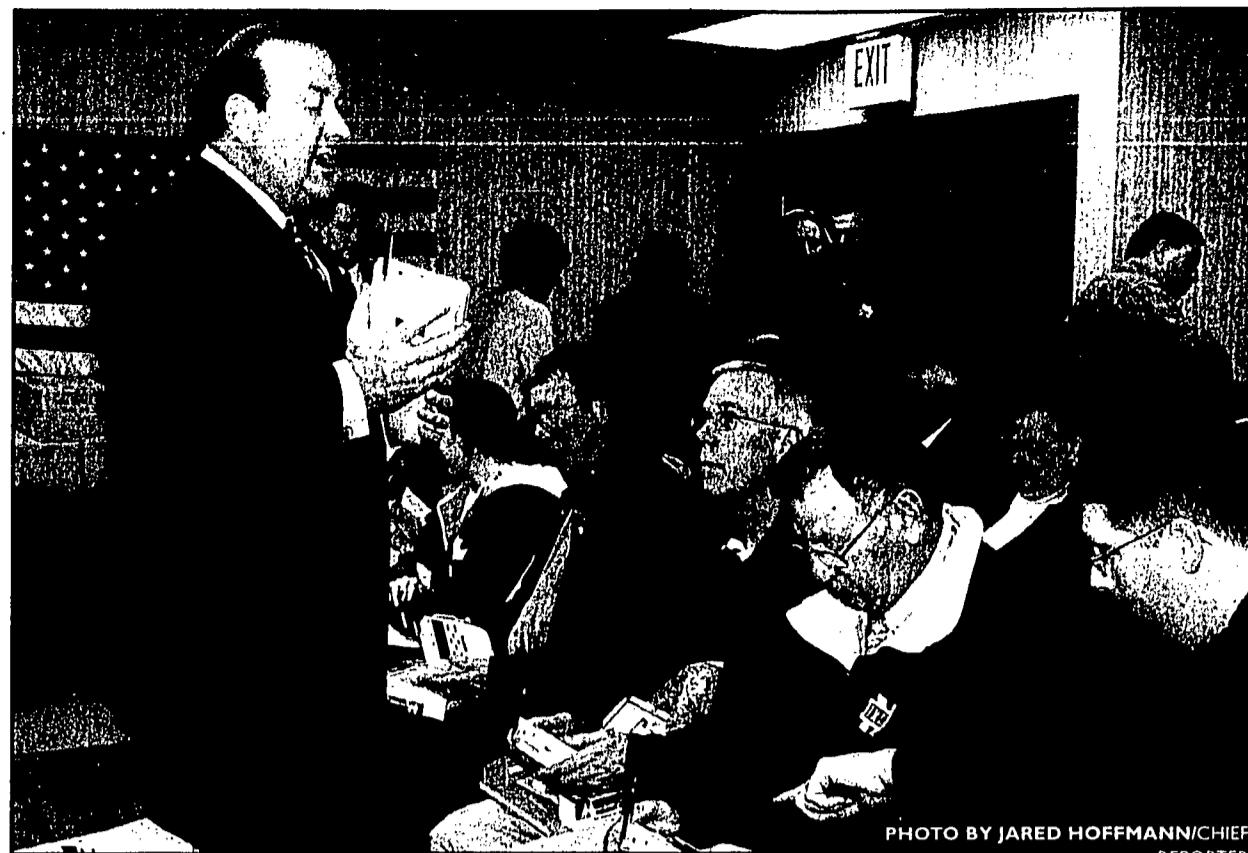
Brother Damian Larson

tional Weather Service.) Forney was glad to see the radios finally distributed to those who needed them.

"I think it's awesome," Forney said. "The number one goal for us in the beginning was the safety of kids. Now we're able to help individuals in nursing homes and daycares as well."

Abbot Gregory Polan of Conception Abbey said Brother Damian Larson, who was killed by a gunman during the June 10, 2002 shootings at Conception Abbey, would have been honored by the implementation of the weather radio program.

"I think it's really a fitting thing," Polan said. "Brother Damian was very much involved in teaching students about weather when they would visit the Abbey. The fact that this is being done in his memory is a special honor for us."



Former meteorologist for KCTV channel 5 in Kansas City Bruce Thomas instructs representatives from area schools, daycare centers and nursing homes on how to use weather radios last night at the Maryville City Hall. The weather radio project was conceived to honor the memory of Brother Damian Larson from Conception Abbey who was murdered June 10, 2002.

Maryville Public Safety Director Keith Wood also said the radio program is the perfect way to pay tribute to Larson, who Wood often looked to for weather forecasts.

"He was invaluable as a weather

tool," Wood said. "Whenever the weather would start to do its thing, he was the first person I would turn to."

According to Wood, nearly 70 radios were distributed to area schools, nursing homes and

daycares. The direct connection to the National Weather Service will give individuals a forewarning in the midst of hazardous weather.

Jared Hoffmann can be reached at 562-1224 or by email at jhoffmann@missourianonline.com

St. Francis receives national recognition

By JARED HOFFMANN
Chief Reporter

St. Francis Hospital received second Missouri Quality Award from Lt. Gov. Joe Maxwell on 18.

According to a recent press release issued by representatives of the MQA, the award program's official state recognition for excellence in quality leadership, was recognized as one of the state's best in the country.

According to Rita Miller, St. Francis community relations development manager, winning award makes a profound statement about the community's dedication to healthcare.

"Since we've won it, it speaks well for the community we strive for excellence in what we do," Miller said. "It's a culture we've created and we're proud to be able to win."

According to MQA representative Mary Still, some qualities helped St. Francis bring home the award were its 16-physician staff, along with two affiliated health clinics and licensed school and child care facilities.

Still also said St. Francis was the award because of its continuous quality improvement approach for process improvement and design along with its commitment and decision-making at the level of greatest impact and visibility.

Other award recipients include Boeing Weapons Enterprise Center in St. Charles, SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital in St. Louis.

Aquila raises gas rates for eighth year in a row

By DENNIS SHARKEY
Missourian Reporter

Maryville residents will receive an unwanted surprise upon opening their next gas bill.

The Missouri Public Service Commission approved a request by Aquila last month to raise the purchased gas adjustment from roughly 73 cents per Ccf to 79 cents per Ccf. One Ccf equals about 100 cubic feet. According to numbers released by Aquila, a typical residential home of about 1500 square feet uses about 605 Ccf per winter season and would pay almost \$7 more a month.

It's not news that small business owners wanted to hear, either. Kathy Rice, owner of Movie Magic said that it was something she knew was coming.

"I've been worried about it all summer," Rice said. "This just confirms it."

In addition to selling movies and music, Movie Magic is also where Aquila customers can pay their bills, and Rice has no doubt that she will hear about it.

"I'll be hearing about the adverse affects," Rice said. "Some of them already have completely outrageous bills and this will just make it harder."

George Minter, spokesman for Aquila, said that the company as normal procedure files a purchased gas adjustment each November. The amount that the company charges for providing gas will not change just the actual cost of the gas. Aquila charges customers exactly what it pays for gas. Depending on what the gas market is at the time determines whether or not a request is filed.

"Sometime we even ask for a decrease if the price of the gas market goes down," Minter said. "But since 1997 the trend has been a raise of prices."

Minter also said that the com-

pany can make up to three additional requests a year for a price adjustment, but he doesn't think that will happen.

"There are no plans to go back and file," Minter said. "But you never know the market could change again."

Rice also said that increases overall could also hurt the pocketbook of her customers as well.

"I try and keep my rates as reasonable as possible, but I have to cover my cost," Rice said. "Everything has been going up and we've tried to maintain lower prices, but I don't know how much longer we can hold the line."

Aquila gas rates over the last three winter seasons

2004-05

Nov. Dec. Jan. Feb. March
\$79 \$74 \$80 \$81 \$78

2003-04

Nov. Dec. Jan. Feb. March
\$49 \$62 \$54 \$54 \$59

2002-03

Nov. Dec. Jan. Feb. March
\$42 \$48 \$56 \$81 \$51

Price is the average for heating 100 cubic feet

CONTINUED from 1A

Hunting season brings safety, tradition, cooperation

She also said that classes are advertised through flyers at schools and with radio and TV ads. The courses are free and are put on by volunteers from the Department, who can also do on site classes.

"We can do a class if we have 10 or more people request it," Campbell said. "Sometime we go to businesses or groups and do classes there."

This year the state of Missouri didn't have any fatal accidents, but there were seven involving injuries. None took place in Northwest Missouri. According to Campbell knowing hunter safety and being respectful is the best way of reducing accidents and avoiding horrible situations like the one in Wisconsin last

month, where six hunters were killed, after confronting a man who was trespassing on private property.

He said that very few hunters don't act in an ethical manner and that most of the hunters do so in a safe and proper fashion. Few complaints are received and most deal with hunters that are not from this area and are just unaware.

"There's always one bad apple in the bunch," Campbell said.

Campbell said encouraging youth hunting is important to the well being of hunting. Reducing the population of deer reduces the chances of crop damage and vehicle accidents

involving deer. It also helps ensure a healthy and stable herd in Missouri.

"Man is deer's only natural predator and without hunting Mother Nature would take its course and overpopulating would occur," Campbell said. "Disease and starvation could follow. Hunting helps keep a healthy balance in nature and retain our resources that we could lose."

Hunting is good for the environment and family but Gray also said that it's just a nice way to get away.

"I like being outdoors and getting up early," Gray said. "It's quiet and it really relaxes you and takes you away from the everyday mayhem at work."

The Maryville R-II School District officials announced Tuesday that the district has earned the Distinction in Performance award from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The district has earned the award every year since its inception in 1997.

"I'm very proud," said Superintendent Vicki Miller. "I think it's truly reflective of all of the hard work by the staff, students and the community."

The annual recognition is based on school districts' performances on MAP test scores, ACT scores, attendance and dropout rates, as well as other academic measurements.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Maryville R-II School District receives state award for excellence

Maryville resident Scott Vergith pleaded guilty to counts of class D felony knowingly burning last week.

The charges stem from incidents that occurred in County on Oct. 20 of last year. Vergith was sentenced to four-year sentences with the Missouri Department of Corrections. Vergith was given a suspended sentence for the charges, but Circuit Judge Roger Prokes mandated sentencing that Vergith serve at least 120 days in jail.

Vergith still faces charges for allegedly starting fires in downtown Maryville March of last year. Sentencing on those charges will be on Feb. 22 at the Nodaway County Courthouse.

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dozen years later, Barnes bids adieu

BY SAMUEL MUCHIRI
Missourian Reporter

Gregory Haddock has fond memory of departing Provost Taylor Barnes jokes by calling himself the "little or replacement." When he moved from chair to dean of science, that made a vacancy in the Geology/Geography department which resulted to the search that led to his hiring," said Haddock chair of the Department of Geology/Geography. "I tell many people that, but now that I'm leaving I can go ahead and say it." Barnes became provost in 2001, and will leave his position on Dec. 31. He began his career at Northwest in 1994 as a member of the Geology/Geography department. He became department chair in 1994 and then took dean of College of Arts and Sciences in 1996.

Haddock has known Barnes formally and informally for eight years and credits him for encouraging him to pursue the online Masters of Science in Geographic Information Science program. The program has been successful with approximately 60 graduates.

Barnes' tenure at Northwest has had highs and lows, some of them from wide budget cuts to higher education, but his policies were always in fa-

vor of the University. "While occasionally Taylor and Faculty Senate had had their differences, he's always made his decisions based on what he thinks is best for the University," said Michael Hobbs, Faculty Senate President. "He worked very hard to make Northwest a better school, and we owe him the gratitude for that."

Hobbs has been friends with Barnes for more than 10 years and has known him professionally for eight years.

Barnes leaves Northwest after 13 years to teach as a distinguished visiting professor of Geography at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo. He said his experience here at Northwest was incredible.

"It has been a tremendous experience at Northwest to serve the University as a faculty member, department chair, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and currently as provost," Barnes said.

Barnes says he leaves behind an outstanding faculty, staff, and stakeholders. He believes the university has made significant accomplishments to better serve students. Barnes said he is proud of the various programs offered at Northwest and felt great to be part of the team.

Some of the programs initiated under his occupancy as provost are; Masters Degree in Geography Information



PHOTO BY ALEXIS HEJNA/MISSOURIAN PHOTOGRAPHER

Northwest Provost Taylor Barnes shares a laugh with a visitor to his office. After 13 years at the University, Barnes will retire to teach geography at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Science, Masters Degree in Recreation, MBA with equality emphasis, MBA with health Management emphasis, masters in applied Computer Science, and most recently biopharming

Barnes will teach in Colorado Springs for two years. He will write and occasionally teach. He also plans to spend

more time with his two grandchildren.

The Northwest community will always remember Barnes' warm smile and humorous nature in every position he held.

"It would appear during those 13 years I had trouble holding a job," Barnes joked.

Bell Tower rings again

Former University presidents to participate in rededication

By ANDY TIMKO
Chief Reporter

After months of silence the University Bell Tower will announce the beginning of classes once again.

The renovation of the Bell Tower is finally finished and two of the men who made the symbol what is today will be recognized at Northwest on Sunday.

Former Northwest President Dr. Robert Foster and his assistant, Everett Brown, helped to raise the funds for the Bell Tower in the early 1970s. The two will be recognized at the rededication.

"I'm surprised and pleased," Foster said. "It's a wonderful recognition."

Before the project began, Foster helped create the Foundation to build the necessary funding for the Bell Tower.

"I called Mr. Brown one day. I said Everett, our foundation has a wonderful start, but we don't have any money," Foster said. "I said I had in mind 15 businessmen who had indicated that they would help. He said 'You've had some crazy ideas, this may be worst one you've had, but let's try and see what we can do.'"

The building of the Bell Tower began with \$15,000 in private investments from local business. Foster said. From there, another \$5 million was funded to move on with the project.

Plans for the Bell Tower started in 1964 when Foster started his tenure as president. The Bell Tower was officially

incorporated in 1971.

In the late 1960s, Foster and Brown thought that the University needed something that could be recognized by students and community alike.

"It's a symbol, it's a recognition," Brown said. "It's one of those things you find on most campuses. We didn't have any expectations, we wanted a symbol on campus."

According to Foster, it was decided that there needed to be a rallying point for the students, faculty and friends of the University.

"It has served its purpose very, very well," he said. "It has been used by so many different organizations, there have been many meetings held at the Bell Tower."

The tower's other purpose was to remind students that classes are starting, but before the tower was built there were objections from the surrounding community.

According to Foster, they believed that the bells ringing at night would keep neighbors close to the University awake.

"That was accepted later on and really proved to be no problem," he said. "We had a lot of fun though, because some people weren't able to sleep. I always thought that it woke up some students so they could change classes on time."

The rededication will take place at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Bell Tower. After the short ceremony, refreshments will be served on the second floor of the Union. In case of bad weather the ceremony will be held in the Union.



PHOTO BY NICK ROUMAS/MISSOURIAN PHOTOGRAPHER

Members of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia perform during Monday's Christmas Tree Lighting at the Bell Tower. The group was among the first to christen the newly-renovated structure.

Northwest seals biopharming initiative, provides region with opportunities

"years," said Jeff Thornsberry, assistant professor of Biology and expert in biopharmaceuticals. Therapeutic proteins will be extracted from the crops, and will be refined and formulated medical foods or pharmaceuticals that will eventually promiseable medicines to treat illnesses such as dysentery, as well as create specialized baby formulas. Ultimately, Northwest students going toward soon to be added bachelor's and master's degrees in biotechnology will take part in gene extraction process, placing the University at an academic advantage.

We are looking at between the Biology, Chemistry and Physics departments in developing a curriculum in biotechnology and

nanotechnology that will be able to bring in some new faculty members and expand the types of course offerings that are available to our students," Thornsberry said. "We're trying to increase the overall exposure to some of these high tech, cutting edge areas of research that are taking place in the sciences."

He added that students will have expanded opportunities to learn about state of the art techniques in the fields of cellular and molecular biology and biochemistry when Ventria begins its work in Missouri.

Also by attracting Ventria Biopharmaceuticals to Northwest Missouri, this provides the opportunity of attracting other companies, said Lee Langerock, Executive Director of the Nodaway County Economic

Development.

"It brings a whole different dimension concerning the workforce and the education opportunities to Maryville and the surrounding communities," she said.

Even though Ventria's President and CEO could not be reached for a comment, the biopharmaceutical company choose to relocate in Missouri because the state is a leader in the development and commercialization of biotechnology. Both Northwest Missouri State and the State of Missouri have worked with Ventria to develop the infrastructure and facilities necessary to bring the company to market for the benefit of global health.

"I think everything is in place to make this successful," Lager said. "I look forward to working with

Ventria Bioscience, Northwest Missouri State University and our community to grow and move this project forward."

Northwest was in competition with various other states, including Louisiana, North Carolina and Kentucky to seal Ventria's coveted presence. Beneficiaries include northwest Missouri farmers, who will grow more than 70 percent of Ventria's continental U.S. field production—predominantly in genetically modified crops such as barley and wild rice.

Ultimately, Hubbard said, finding willing participants won't be difficult.

"Farmers will make more than two times what they've ever dreamed of making in the past," he said.

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Rub your worries away

A professional massage may be exactly what your stressed-out body needs

BY STEPHANIE STANGL
Feature's Editor

For some, the remedy for pain comes in the form of doctor visits and prescription pills.

But others opt to take a less stressful, and some say healthier approach, of surrendering themselves to the serenity and effectiveness therapeutic massage offers.

Day after day, Leslie Ackman knew she would spend her time consuming an excess of 10 aspirin and prescription painkillers in a hopeful attempt to lessen the anguish associated with her constant migraines and severe jaw discomfort.

After going to a neurologist, a doctor and a dentist to figure out what was wrong to no avail, Ackman, of Maryville, researched massage therapy as a form of alternative medicine and decided to give it a try. After only a couple sessions, she was able to reduce her intake of painkillers to one or two per day.

"Sometimes the pain would get so bad that I would have to stay in bed, and it got to the point where I would just cry all day," Ackman said. "I felt like I had nowhere to turn and no one understood the pain I was in. Within a few visits I realized that I might just be able to live normally again."

Ackman goes to River Song Massage in Maryville once a week to continually remedy her migraines and lessen the intense pain she has in her jaw.

Kristina Hargin, certified massage therapist and owner of River Song Massage, says that many of her other clients also have problems with prescription painkillers.

"Sometimes a client comes in and tells me their stomach hurts because of all the prescribed drugs they have taken for a particular body pain," Hargin said. "I will give them one massage and they almost always immediately feel better."

Many of her clients come in with a specific concern that they want Hargin to focus on, some of her clients simply come in to reduce stress and relax.

Although Teri Sanders, a registered nurse at Parkdale Manor in Maryville, currently goes to Hargin for only relaxation purposes, she also went when she was pregnant to relieve some discomfort such as the swelling in her feet and overall tension in her body.

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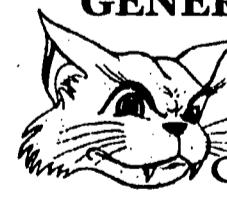
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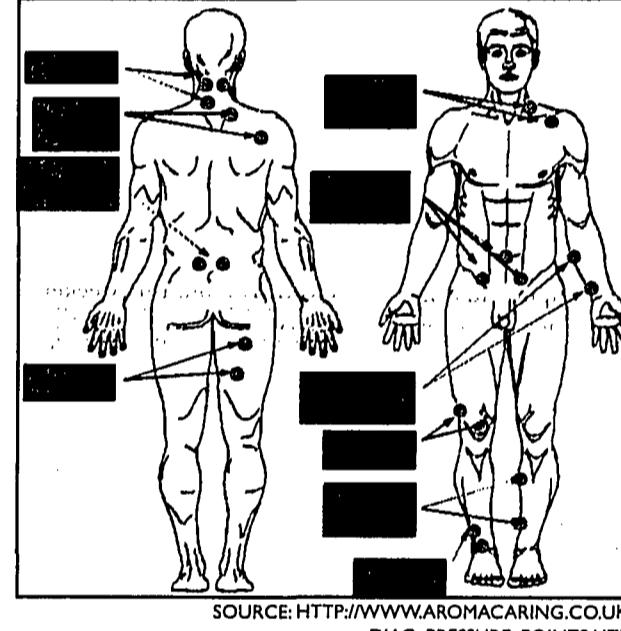
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PHOTOS BY EMILY JACKSON/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Kristina Hargin, owner of River Song Massage in Maryville, has been in practice for over 10 years and loves it. Though she serves both men and women, women come in more.

away

Massage Pressure Points



SOURCE: [HTTP://WWW.AROMACARING.CO.UK/DIAG_PRESSURE_POINTS.HTM](http://WWW.AROMACARING.CO.UK/DIAG_PRESSURE_POINTS.HTM)

also be the cure for many common ailments. Hargin says that injuries can be prevented by the increased flexibility exercise fosters.

"I always tell people that you need to be stronger than your job," Hargin said. "For instance, a person will complain about upper back pain after they sit at the computer all day and it simply may mean that those muscles are not strong enough. Exercise and muscle toning would be of great help to this."

Although massage carries these benefits and has completely changed Ackman's life, she has a theory to why many people neglect to take advantage of the services available in town.

"I think a lot of people consider massage as being too expensive or maybe against alternative medicine," Ackman said. "I think if people would look at the alternatives they will realize that prescription drugs are not the solution to all of life's problems."

Hargin has a different reason why she thinks people are a little stand-offish about getting a professional massage.

"I think modesty keeps a lot of people from coming to a massage therapist," Hargin said. "Every therapist is going to keep you covered and respect you. Whatever we talk about or is discovered is kept purely confidential."

According to Hargin, there is one drawback that some people experience following a massage.

"A person might experience pain like they had a workout the night before," Hargin said. "But half of people don't even complain of that and usually goes away in a couple of days along with the original complaint."

Once a person has had their initial visit, Hargin recommends that if a person is using massage for purely relaxation purposes to only get another session when they have the time and money to do so. If a person tries to go to more sessions than they can afford, this only has the opposite and negative effect causing more stress.

The rate for a session at River Song Massage is \$20 per half hour and \$40 per hour. Insurance will cover it only in the instance that it is recommended by a physician. Appointments are necessary because massage is extremely private, Hargin said.

"It will help with your stress level if you take time out for yourself," Ackman said. "Sometimes it is just a matter of taking a half hour out every once in a while to treat yourself to peace."

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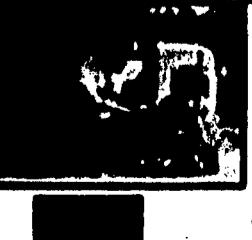
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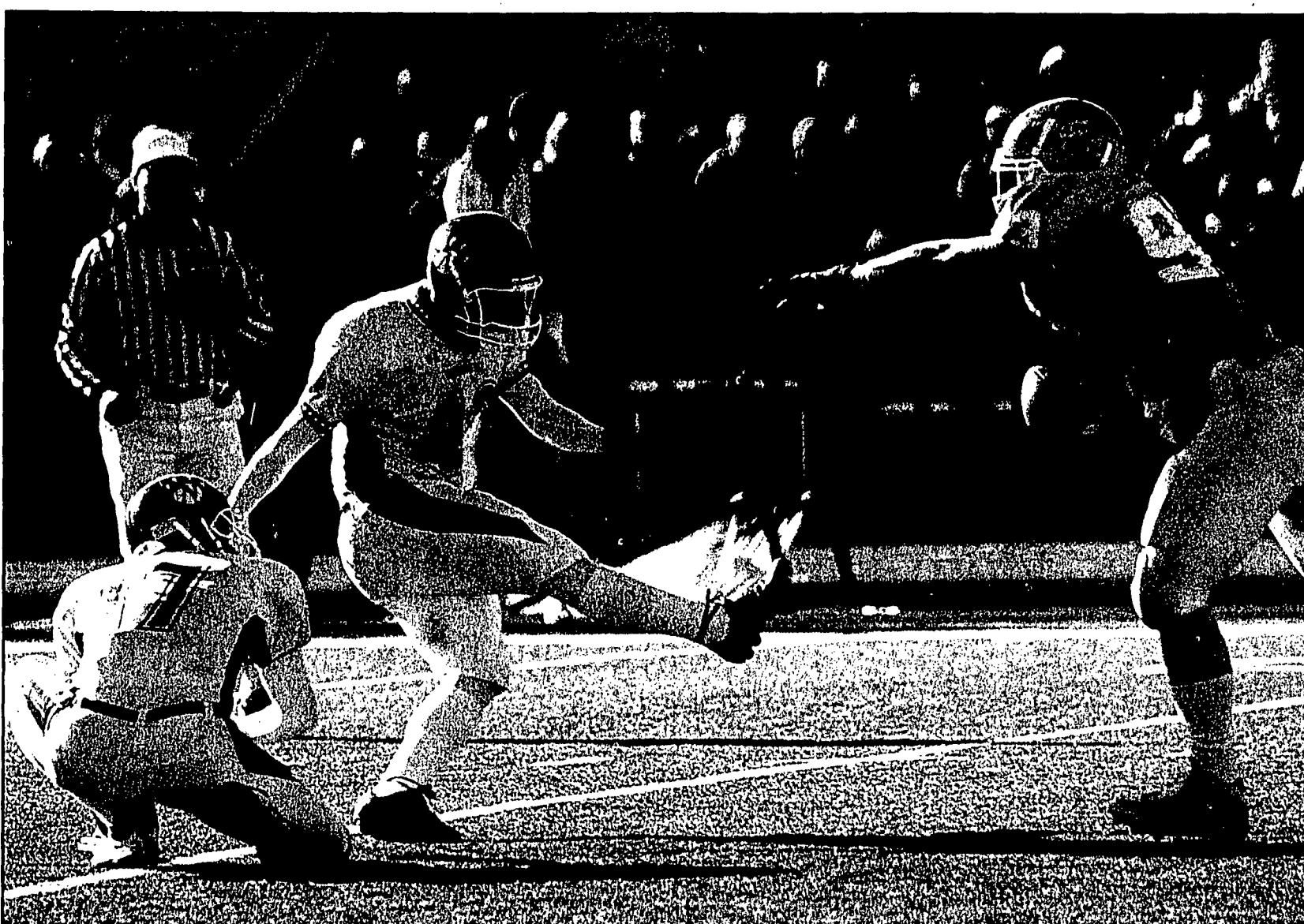


PHOTO BY COLEYOUNG/ SPORTS EDITOR

Northwest kicker Luis Berlanga has an extra point blocked against Pittsburg State Saturday. Berlanga, the NCAA record holder for most consecutive extra points made, had two extra points and a field goal blocked against the Gorillas. Northwest fell to the No. 1 Gorillas 50-36. Pittsburg State moves on to play North Dakota this weekend in the national semifinals.

ably looked that way too. It seemed like it took me 10 minutes to get to the end zone."

Kicker Luis Berlanga's extra point was blocked and returned for two points by Gorilla defender Eric Wright.

On the next play for Philpot, he again put the football on the turf, this time recovered by Northwest defensive lineman Steve Williams.

That was the last mistake Philpot would make all day.

Northwest was unable to capitalize after Berlanga's field goal attempt was blocked.

"The first one of his kicks was low," Northwest coach Mel Tjeerdsma said. "The other two were just missed blocking assignments. This is the 12th game of the year; we can't make mistakes like that and expect to win."

From there, Philpot and running back Germaine Race ran over the Bearcats, combining for 261 yards on the ground.

"We decided at halftime to just give them a healthy dose of Neal Philpot and Germaine Race and see how they responded," Gorillas head coach Chuck Broyles said.

Still with Northwest's trouble stopping the run, they were in position to tie the game with 4:24 remaining, trailing 43-36.

It was then that Mathews threw his second interception of the day when Chad Miller stepped in front of a pass that would have tied the game.

"I couldn't say any more about

our effort," Tjeerdsma said. "We made too many mistakes. There is a difference between effort and mistakes, and you can't fault our effort. You just have to fault some of our plays."

The Gorillas move on to play North Dakota this weekend in the NCAA Division II semifinals.

"(Pittsburg State) is by far the best offense I've faced in my four years (at Northwest)," Tiehen said. "The numbers they put up are amazing. I've never seen anything like it."

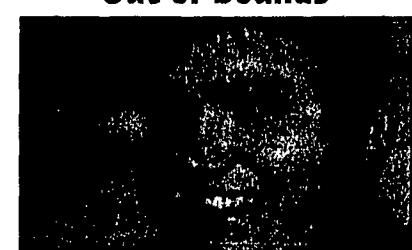
Tjeerdsma couldn't agree more.

"This game was decided on the field, and the best team won," Tjeerdsma said. "Pittsburg State is a great football team. Give them a lot of credit. They are hard to slow down. I am just proud of what we accomplished under the circumstances going back a few weeks. I hope Pittsburg State wins it all, and we'll get ready for next year."

Xavier Omon



Out of Bounds



Bearcat fans can take solace in future

Following Saturday's season-ending loss to Pittsburg State, an odd aura surrounded Carnie Smith Stadium.

Mixed with the feelings of disappointment of more 2,000 Northwest faithful was a resounding feeling of hope and understanding.

Granted, the Bearcats had just lost to the No. 1 team in the nation by two touchdowns after having every chance in the world to win the game, handling the loss was still not nearly as difficult for many as losing to teams like Missouri Western was last year.

The main reason for that is simple. Pittsburg State is the best Division II team in the entire nation. A Gorilla fan posting on www.d2football.com's message board said it best.

"Try to stop the run we will beat you deep. Try to stop the pass we will run all over you."

Wow.

Bold.

True.

Northwest tried to stop the run. The result was a 58-yard touchdown pass to Jermaine Carpenter down the sidelines.

Northwest tried to stop the pass. That resulted in the Gorillas running for 377 yards.

There is a reason Pittsburg State set the NCAA record for most points scored in a season. A team just doesn't score 775 points without a potent offense.

It may be the most potent offense between Denver and St. Louis of any level team.

In two weeks, while Northwest students pretend to study for their finals, a healthy portion of them may get a sick feeling in their stomachs around

Please see "Don't" page 2B

Sharp shooting Bearcats blow by Rockhurst

By JEROME BOETTCHER
Assistant Sports Editor

What a difference a week makes. Seven days ago the Northwest women's basketball team was 0-3 heading into their Nov. 23rd game against William Penn. Just four wins and one week later, the Bearcats are above .500 with a 4-3 record.

The 'Cats picked up their fourth win of the week Tuesday as they blew by Rockhurst University 85-59.

Northwest trailed early on but thanks to a 20-4 run and 12 steals in the first half, the 'Cats led 41-22 at halftime.

Head coach Gene Steinmeyer credits the takeaways to a stingy de-

fense he calls the "roadrunner."

"It really messed them up a little bit," Steinmeyer said. "We were switching man to this roadrunner defense and I think that was as much slowing them down as anything."

Northwest ended up with 22 steals in the game as Rockhurst turned the ball over 31 times. The Bearcats went up by as many as 32 points in the second half and scored over 80 points for the third time in the last four games.

Junior Laura Friederich scored 20 points and freshmen Megan Hamilton and Kelli Nelson added 13 and 12 points, respectively.

"Everybody's doing real well, I didn't even shoot well tonight,"

Friederich said. "Meghan Blay or Katie O'Grady or (Ashley Popranczy) got me the ball and I tried to run to make that work."

Coming into last Tuesday the 'Cats had dropped their first game against North Dakota and lost the two games in the Ryland Milner Classic. The team then beat William Penn 82-48. They then won their two games in the Holiday Tournament against Columbia College and Park University.

Another reason the 'Cats have played so well is because of the many points they get from players coming off the bench. The bench scored 37 points Tuesday against Rockhurst.

"Things really are improving every day," Steinmeyer said. "Some-

where along the way we're going to take a step back here but the big thing (is that) we just got to make sure it is a small step and just keep progressing forward."

Northwest will play against Peru State on Friday and then won't play again until Dec. 11, at the University of Nebraska-Omaha. Coach Steinmeyer says the team will be playing hard against Omaha because the Mavericks have hinted that they might cancel the series after this year.

"I know their thought: let's get them this year, when they're freshmen and get out of it when these freshmen mature," he said. "I got a sneaky feeling that our freshmen are going

Please see "Women" page 2B

Slow Starters

- Northwest started the season 0-3, but has since won their last four games. Here's a look at the averages of the losses against the wins.

0-3	Points	4-0
60.7		82.2

Field Goal Pct.

31%	38.5%



PHOTO BY EMILY JACKSON/ CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Haskell provides no problems for Northwest

By ANDY TIMKO
Chief Reporter

Northwest men's basketball back on the winning track by night beating Haskell Col-

56 at Bearcat Arena.

Saturday's disappointing loss

to Arkansas, the win was wel-

come by the 'Cats, whose defense shut

Fighting Indians for almost six

to start the game.

as something we stressed be-

game," junior Austin Meyer

We did pretty good on the

that was our main focus, but

still a lot we need to get bet-

On the offensive side of the court the 'Cats started off quick going on a 21-5 run for the first 10 minutes of the game.

"We did start with pretty good intensity to start the game and coming out the second half," head coach Steve Tappmeyer said.

Meyer led the team with 19 points and had a play deserving of Sportscenter's Top 10 when he stole the ball, turned 180 degrees and flipped the ball over his shoulder to Andy Peterson who finished the play with an easy layup.

Other notable players from the game include Peterson who led with

10 rebounds and Jesse Shaw who had 5 steals.

The 'Cats suffered their first loss of the regular season Saturday night at the hands of host Central Arkan-

sas 65-48.

The low-scoring affair saw 30 turnovers between the teams and poor shooting from the 'Cats, who shot 33.3 percent from the field on the night. The Bears, however, shot 56 percent from the field and pulled down 36 rebounds compared to the 'Cats' 19.

"We really got exposed defensively as far as rebounding goes," senior Travis Gardner said. "There are

things that we have to work on this week and before we go to Hawaii."

Despite the loss, Tappmeyer is optimistic and believes that the game will give the team an idea of what needs to be worked on if they want to go into the postseason this year.

"We need to be man enough to address that say we're not as good as we need to be," he said. "The two big areas we need to address are we need to become a much more solid team defensively and we have to take better care of the ball. To me, that was the most disappointing thing about our loss."



PHOTO BY EMILY JACKSON/ CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

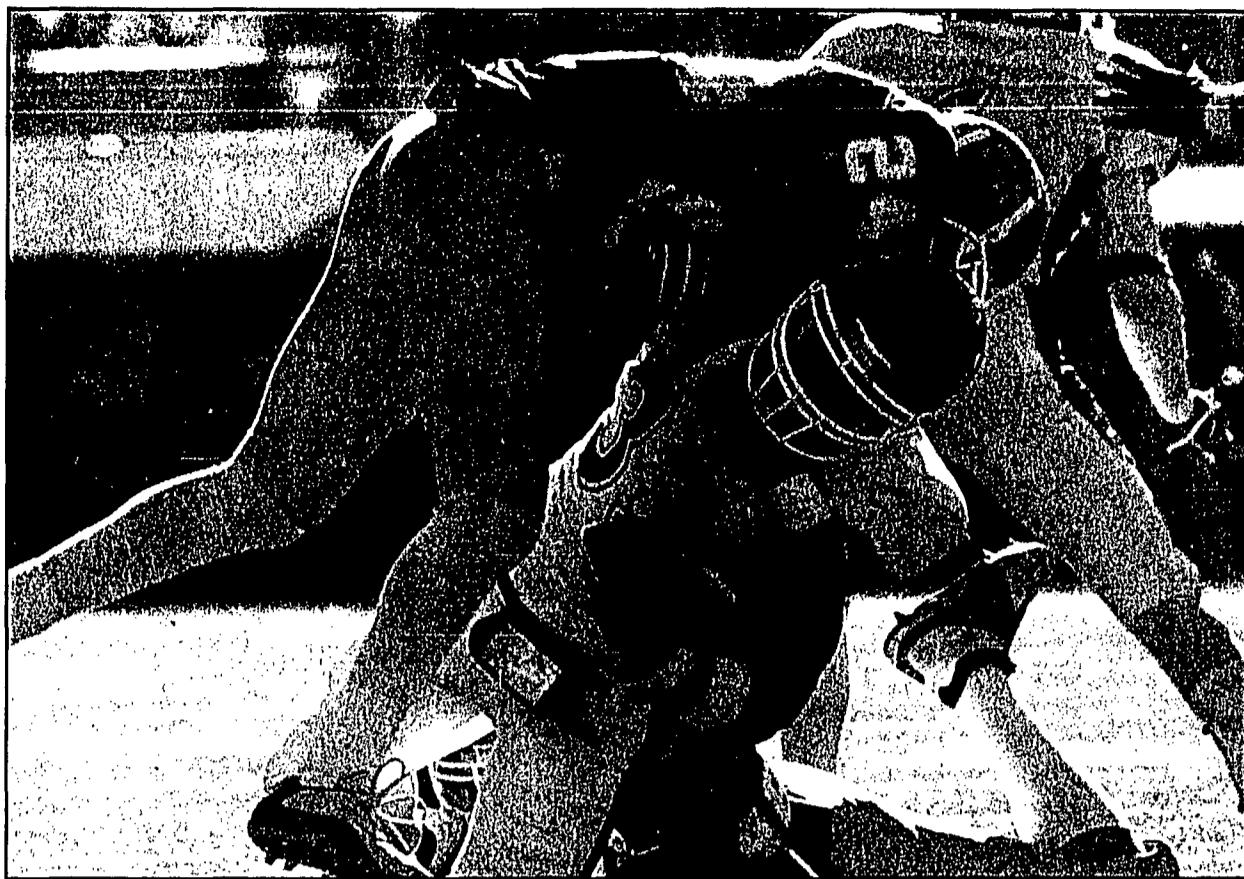


PHOTO BY STEVE SERRANO/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Northwest running back Xavier Omon is brought down by a couple of Pittsburg State defenders during the 'Cats' season ending loss at Carnie Smith Stadium in Pittsburg, Kan. Northwest ended the season with an 11-2 record, both losses coming against Pittsburg State.

CONTINUED from 1B

Don't worry about 'Cats football future

4 p.m.

Barring one of the greatest upsets in the history of college football, that is when Pitt State should win their first National Championship since 1991.

In all honesty, however the title may have been decided on Saturday.

There is a very good chance North Dakota and neither one of the Eastern region winners can

even stay close to Pittsburg this year.

That excites me.

If they win the title this year, that is great. That very likely means Northwest is the second-best team in the nation. The second-best team with a young offensive line, a freshman running back, a young secondary, with the brunt of their defensive line coming back.

Oh yeah, and don't forget about

that quarterback Northwest had at the beginning of the year.

Essentially the gut feeling that seems to be resonating through the Maryville is that of wait until next year.

I don't see any reason why Northwest shouldn't be as good or better as this year's team.

If that is the case, that bodes well for a team that is arguably the second-best team in the nation.

2004 Season Statistics

Passing	Rushing			Receiving			Leading Scorers				
	Att.	Cmp.	TD	INT	Att.	Yds	TD	Rec.	Yds	TD	
Mathews, Josh	171	102	11	5	Omon, Xavier	249	1575	19	87	1203	15
Lamberson, Josh	168	121	19	4	Lamberson, Josh	61	334	4	39	613	1
Netolicky, Jeff	25	13	2	5	Fiech, Mike	43	234	2	25	422	5

Interceptions: Kelly Williams (3), Tyler Martin (2), Pat Whitt (2), Troy Tysdahl (2), Gabriel Helms (2). Tackles: Chad Botwick (81), Adam Long (81), Troy Tysdahl (76). Sacks: Dave Tollefson (8.5 sacks).

Indoor track gets underway with challenge at Iowa State

BY AARON NELSON
Missourian Reporter

Pole vaulting is generally not an indoor activity. Neither is the high jump.

At Northwest, however, they are as common indoors as a game of checkers.

Perhaps at least for the members of the indoor track team who are preparing for the start of their season, which will begin with the Holiday Meet at Iowa State University Dec. 10. That meet is particularly special for many of the athletes who participate in it.

"(The Holiday Meet) is a reward for the kids who have come the farthest this fall," Men's Track and Field Coach Richard Alsup said.

Throughout the season the men's team will need solid leadership from its newly elected captains. Among them is senior Clint Prange, who is a two-time discus national champion.

"Anytime a player is really performing well and then gets halted by injuries, it's a bit of a setback," he

said. Overall, Alsup is pleased with the performance of his squad this year.

"These kids work tremendously hard," he said.

The track team will also be this year by another select group of football players, including former Dallas Flynn.

"Dallas Flynn was an all-conference thrower for us last year and has already joined us," Alsup said.

However, football player former track athlete Jamaica will be missing this year due to injury requirements.

With or without Recor,

has definite goals for this year.

"In general (I would like) to be better and get a conference championship and move some of the kids along so that they will do well for the top spots in the conference and maybe qualify some for the nationals," Alsup said.

CONTINUED from 1B

Women win four straight to get winning record

to compete.

Overall, Steinmeyer is pleased with how well his team has done after the slow start and thinks that every win they can get is big.

"4-3 sounds a lot better than 0-3," Steinmeyer said. "Let's face it, you know how tough the MIAA is. We're going to have to scrap and scrape for every win we get there. So any wins we can get before the MIAA will be much appreciated."



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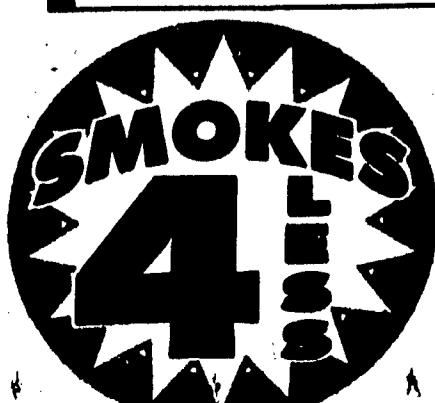
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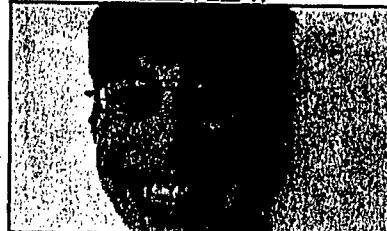


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Maryville got it right with Miller

UPON FURTHER REVIEW



JEROME BOETTCHER
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Maryville football coach was fired last year, it didn't any replacement could win students.

Paul Miller made everyone a. The laid back coach from brought his pass-happy of Maryville and turned the around.

before the players had into the field for a game, they respected Miller.

one of his qualities better than Pelzer. He's not as stubborn senior linebacker Evan the week before the 'Hounds.

"He'll listen to us and things."

certainly changed things. turned heads this year.

With knocking off bitter rival County, the 'Hounds also held

state champ Harrisonville

best scoring output, twice.

though the 'Hounds didn't make

"Promised Land" in St. Louis,

made it back to the semi-

first time since 1996.

Miller had just what Maryville needed at the time: a coach who understood the problem well enough to know what he needs to do.

One of the main reasons Miller wanted to come to Maryville was because he wanted to be closer to his

daughters who live in Princeton, Ill.

He fit right in with the small-town

atmosphere. He knew how to give

back to the town.

Miller knew his place. He knew

how well defensive coordinator Brian

Lohafer's defense had worked in the past. He knew that he just needed to come in and deal with the offense and let Lohafer handle the defense.

"When you've had success with something, don't change it. Let that happen," he said before the first game of the season.

Miller did just that. He focused on offense, taking a talented player in Josh Wilmes and allowing him to shine at quarterback. Miller made a change from the Pelzer era by letting players play both offense and defense (something that played to Miller's advantage).

Though some still won't get over the firing of Pelzer, those critics have to hand it to the school in going out and picking a winner and a great person in Miller.

"It's not that I haven't enjoyed the places I've been, but it's just that I'm looking for that opportunity to really build something over a course of time," Miller said. "I believe Maryville has that opportunity."



FILE PHOTO

Maryville head coach Paul Miller talks to members of his team during one of the first practices of the season. Miller led the Spoofhounds to their best season since 1996. The team finished with a 9-3 record and made it to the Class 3A semifinals.

all wrestling squad starts off season

By BILLY BURNS
Missourian Reporter

success of the Maryville

and football team continues

the rest of the athletic de-

Hounds wrestling team is

for two duals next week,

match against St. Pius X on

and a dual at Plattsburg on

Joseph Drake's wrestlers

not be ready for those

however.

got our athletic director

on those duals right now,

move them to the end of

" Drake said.

wants the early season du-

aled because the major-

team missed weeks of prac-

participating in the Mis-

football playoffs.

After the Spoofhounds' semifinal loss to Harrisonville on Nov. 20, 15 of the players began preparing for wrestling season.

With a total of only 22 wrestlers, the 15 football players make up a large part of Drake's team. He has had only three practices with the full team.

He has yet to fill out his varsity lineup.

"We don't know for sure yet because we haven't had time for wrestle-offs," Drake said.

After placing 14th at state last year, Drake is confident in his team's success.

"We stress team success early in the year instead of individual success," Drake said. "As a whole, we are a pretty experienced team."

Senior Skyler Vandiver led the 'Hounds wrestlers last year with a second place finish at state.

Drake expects more from Vandiver, as well as the rest of the team.

"Our expectations are always high for everyone," Drake said.

Despite the early season road-blocks caused by football, Drake thinks the success some of his wrestlers experienced in the fall will carry over.

"My experience is it always does," Drake said. "If they have a successful football season individually and as a group, they want to continue that success."

2004 Wrestling Schedule

12-7	St. Pius X	7 p.m.
12-9	Plattsburg	6 p.m.
12-11	Lexington Tourney	10 a.m.
12-15	Savannah	7 p.m.
12-18	Trenton Tourney	10 a.m.

Home games in bold.

'Hounds pick up first win

The Maryville Spoofhounds girls basketball team picked up their first victory of the season Tuesday night.

The Spoofhounds picked up a 46-44 overtime win at Mid-Buchanan High School despite squandering an 11 point lead at halftime.

Mid-Buchanan scored 26 points in the second half after being held to only nine points in the first half. Maryville, on the other hand, only scored seven points in the fourth quarter.

Kelli Dawson led the 'Hounds in scoring with 13 points.

Kristin Degase and Kim Wolfer added each had nine and eight points, respectively.

Maryville (1-0) will now play against Lafayette on Thursday at 8:30 p.m. They then head to South Harrison on Monday at 8:30 p.m. and play their home opener against LeBlond next Thursday at 8 p.m.



FILE PHOTO

Josh Lamberson (above) and Troy Tysdahl were selected to the 2004 ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America College Division First Team.

Lamberson, Tysdahl receive ESPN Academic honors

Two members of the 2004 Northwest football team were honored Wednesday by ESPN The Magazine.

Junior Josh Lamberson and Troy Tysdahl were selected to the 2004 ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America College Division First Team.

Lamberson, a corporate recreation major, was the only quarterback on the first team and one of nine honorees who have a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Tysdahl, a social science secondary education major, has a 3.93 GPA and was one of three linebackers recognized on the first team.

Members of the College Sports Information Directors of America voted for 48 student athletes to receive the honor.

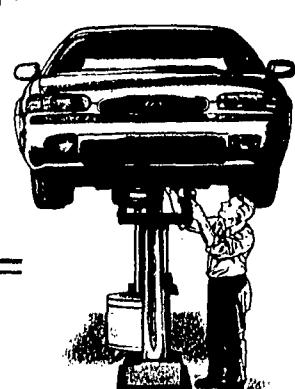
A complete listing of all the awards, can be seen at www.CoSIDA.com.

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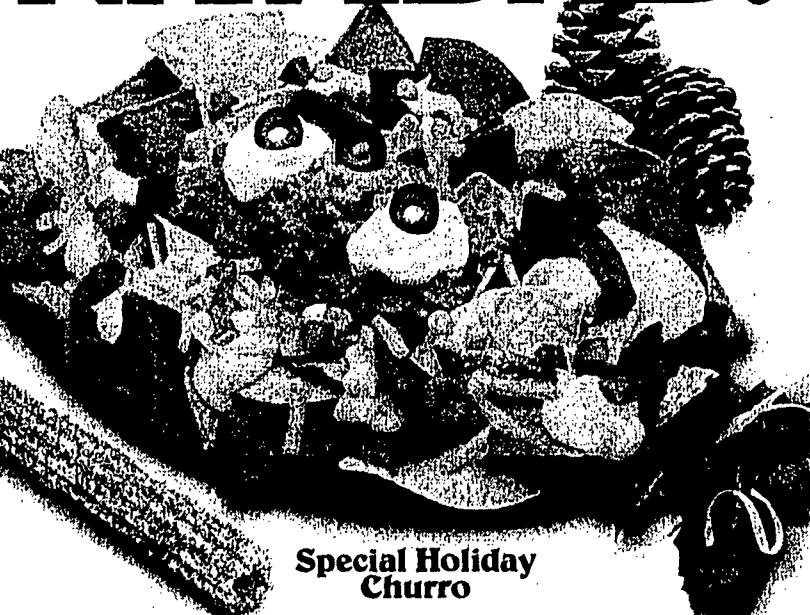


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PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

BY KAREN HARRIS
81 points in the Board

the week's games giving them their first loss of the season.



Sky Wilson



Laura Friedrich

Laura Friedrich tallied 20 points in the Bearcats Victory over Rockhurst. The 85 to 59 win is Northwest's fourth straight victory.

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Christmas drives Your Man insane

I didn't know what I was getting myself into. It was every man's nightmare! I thought I'd be fiscal and save a few bucks; I thought it was the smart thing to do. But waiting overnight at the local Best Buy to get the day after Thanksgiving sales was perhaps the stupidest thing I've ever done. It was as if all sanity left earth and every crazy and psychotic person was let out of their cage.

It started out innocent enough when I left my house around midnight to go sit in line in the hope of getting some good deals. I sat in front of that store for six hours. We ate some leftover turkey, watched *Van Wilder* on some guy's laptop and sipped on Grandpa's cold medicine to keep us warm. We sat in the cold, just waiting for the doors to open. It was almost like a camping trip, but without the woods or a campfire.

Just when I was starting to have fun, the reality of the situation began to set in. When I got there, only 20 people were in line. By the time 5:30 a.m. rolled around, there were almost 800 people in line. "The Great Wall of People" stretched around an Earl May Garden Center, a KFC, a Chili's and some restaurant way off in the distance that I could barely see. It was absurd.

When those doors finally opened, people charged the front door, jumping in front of people who had been in line all night long.



THE STROLLER

The mad dash for Sara's favorite CD or Timmy's new video game was on. People were running through the store like it was a prison break. I saw one mom push over another, while a grandmother started screaming at a clerk for not having her item in stock. It was complete mayhem.

After grabbing all of my items quickly, I ran to the check-outs just in time to stand in another line for another 30 minutes. And when I got to the front of the line they told me that the lane was shutting down and that I would need to go to a different line. I was ready to hit my head against a brick wall.

After I made my way home and got some sleep, I ran over to my bag to see all of the things I got. What was so important to me that I needed to stay up all night for? When

I opened the bag, all I saw was stuff. Granted, it was really cool stuff, but it was just material things. I already have tons of stuff and the people I shop for have tons of stuff.

Does waiting up all night to get them more stuff really make for a better holiday?

My point is simple, I think Christmas has become too much about commercialization and not enough about family and friends. I think people look to the stores as an easy way to say you're important to me.

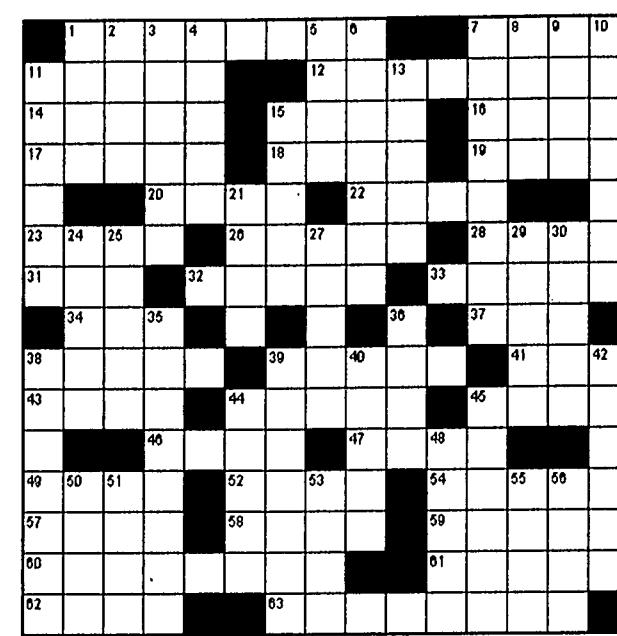
People go insane trying to get Christmas gifts, but they blow off opportunities to spend time with their loved ones. People should take the energy they use to shop and invest it in the people in their life.

So before you go out and blow \$100 on something stupid, take the time to give that person a call and actually go spend some time with them. And one more thing, I know times are tight and people will return home for Christmas work. But if I see you over break and you're dressed up as a Santa's elf or as a reindeer at a shopping mall, I will laugh at you.

Chances are I'll even write about it. So, while I know how important money is, I also know having pride is valuable too. Save your dignity, don't dress up like an elf.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

WEEKLY CROSSWORD



Across

1. Moldable synthetic materials
7. 27th president of the U.S.
11. Come into contact with
12. Resident of London
14. Main artery
15. Thousand
16. Software test version
17. Of them
18. Defeat decisively
19. Is indebted
20. Passport endorsement
22. Iceberg
23. Musical instrument
26. Buckets
28. Donated
31. Idiot
32. Cut in two
33. Capital of France
34. It is
37. And not
38. Thick liqueur
39. Inquisitive person
41. Mixture of earth and water
43. Old Indian coin
44. Purchaser
45. Skin eruption
46. Child's bed
47. Indifferent
49. Writing table
52. Floating ice
54. Unit for measuring gold
57. Great lakes
58. Taradiddles
59. Inhabitant of Iraq
60. Ball game
61. Goddess of love
62. Inquires
63. Emotional outburst

Down

1. Exclamation of disdain
2. Decoy

3. Engaged in action
4. Female given name
5. Advertising achievement award
6. Capable of being dissolved
7. Sled
8. Once more
9. Festive occasion
10. Wrecks
11. Bugle call
13. Short letters
15. Livestock enclosure
21. Duration
24. Scottish child
25. Many times
27. Tusks
29. Fragrance
30. Infectious agent
35. Dollars
36. Nothing
38. Luminous intensity unit
39. Proclaim
40. Expressions of concurrence
42. Male Hindu apparel
44. Punches
45. Yeller
48. Split into layers
50. Periods of history
51. Ailing
53. Comply
55. Wife of a rajah
56. Water

See answers below.

On the
Off
Facts about
Christmas
decorations
■ Electric Christmas tree lights were used in 1895. The idea for using Christmas lights came from an American, F.W. Morris. The new lights proved better than the traditional candles.
■ Long before Christmas was used as a time to encourage during the Christmas season, mistletoe has been considered have magic by Celtic and Teutonic peoples. Celts hung mistletoe in doors in order to bring them good luck and ward off evil.
■ Animal Crackers are not really crackers, but cookies that were imported to the United States from England in the 1800s. Biscuit-like biscuits were designed with a string handle so that they could be hung on a Christmas tree.
Useless knowledge

Upcoming Concerts

Kansas City

Dec. 2 **A Static Lullaby**
El Torreon

Dec. 15 **Jimmy Eat World**
Uptown Theatre

Dec. 2 **Paris Texas**
House of Bricks

Dec. 14 **Mark Erelli**
Vaudeville Mews

Dec. 10 **Gaither Homecoming**
Qwest Center

Dec. 17 **Remembering Never**
Ranch Bowl

Dec. 15 **The Donnas**
Uptown Theatre

Dec. 18 **Sister Hazel**
Beaumont Club

Dec. 31 **Five By Design**
Des Moines Symphony

Jan. 14 **Jerry Seinfeld**
Civic Center

Dec. 26 **Mannheim Steamroller**
Qwest Center

Dec. 31 **Sean Costello**
Holiday Inn Conv. Center

For more information on upcoming events check out www.pollstar.com

Des Moines

Omaha

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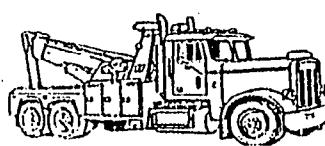
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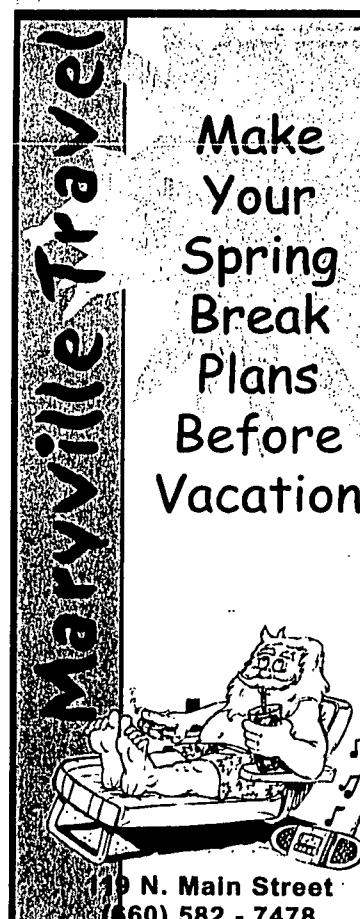
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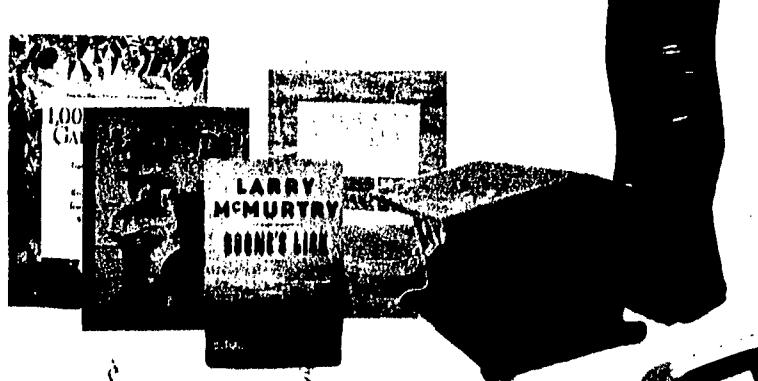
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Spotlight Player



Andre Rector

Junior Andre Rector had five catches for 143 yards on Saturday in the quarterfinals against Pitt State.